

Alabama Medicaid DUR Board Meeting Aug. 11, 2004

Attendees: Rob Colburn, Steve Espy, Richard Freeman, W. Thomas Geary, Louise Jones, Roger Lander, Garry Magouirk, Kathy Porter, Steven Rostand, John Searcy, Margaret Thrower.

Members Absent: Johnny Brooklere, Jimmy Jackson, Frank Skinner, Jefferson Underwood III.

Roger Lander brought the meeting to order at 10:30 am.

Richard Freeman moved that minutes of the May 26, 2004 DUR Board meeting be approved. Thomas Geary seconded the motion. The motion carried.

DUR Update: Steve Espy reviewed the PA help desk report for the months of April, May and June 2004. He reported that the antihypertensive drug class was implemented into the PDL April 2004. The cardiac, estrogen, respiratory, and triptan drug classes were implemented into the PDL May 2004. Mr. Espy also announced that the requirement for children (< 19 years of age) to obtain a PA for less-sedating or second generation antihistamines was implemented in June 2004. In addition, a therapeutic duplication override for narcotic analgesics was implemented in June 2004.

Reports: Steve Espy reviewed the Program Summary report for the three (3) and six (6) month assessment. He reviewed the Cost Management Analysis reports and Drug Analysis report. The standard quarterly reports were not included due to today's meeting being scheduled outside of normal quarterly data analysis run. The standard quarterly reports will be mailed to each member when available.

Intervention Activity: Steve Espy reviewed the second quarter intervention with a cycle date of 7/12/2004. There were 385 letters sent and 331 unique recipients identified. This intervention used the Diabetes criteria. The recommendation was made to repeat the Diabetes criteria for the next cycle. The DUR Board agreed.

Synopsis of Top Six Drugs by Claims Count: Steve Espy reviewed the count of the Alabama Medicaid eligibles divided into Non-Nursing Home and Nursing Home recipients by sex and age. He provided a synopsis of the top six (6) drugs utilized by Alabama Medicaid recipients, based on the number of claims per month. The synopsis was also divided into Non-Nursing Home and Nursing Home recipients by sex and age. The data included the total number of recipients by age group, the total number of unique recipients identified in each age group, and a breakdown by the seven (7) regions of the state associated with the Academic Detailing program.

Academic Detailing Program Reports: Steve Espy reviewed the Academic Detailing Program reports, which were an addendum to the agenda. Sixteen hundred forty nine prescribers were visited for the third quarter of the contract. Fifteen hundred is the contract requirement.

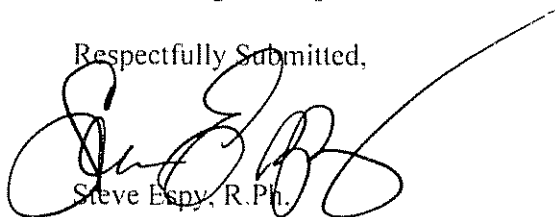
Medicaid Update: Louise Jones provided the following information to the Board:

- Effective July 1, 2004 Alabama Medicaid limited the number of brand name prescriptions to four (4) per month per recipient. Medicaid did not set a prescription limit for the number of generic and over the counter prescriptions. Prescriptions in the anti-psychotic and anti-retroviral drug classes may exceed the brand limit of four (4) but in no case can the limit exceed ten (10) brand name prescriptions per Medicaid recipient per month. Children under the age of 21 and nursing home residents are exempt from the prescription limit. The EDS system has been set up to allow recipients to receive timely refills. A switchover override will be implemented for specific drug classes November 16, 2004 to allow prescribers to switch a recipient to another brand name drug within the same therapeutic class during the month due to clinical reasons after the recipient has already reached their four (4) brand limit. In no case can a recipient exceed ten (10) total brand prescriptions during the month. The switchover will be allowed for the following classes: Anti-neoplastic, Organ Transplant Agents, Hemophilia Agents, End Stage Renal Agents, Cardiac Agents, Diabetic Agents, and Hypertension Agents.
- Medicaid, HID, and EDS are having weekly meetings and are making progress to implement an electronic PA by December 1, 2004.
- Medicaid is working with Blue Cross Blue Shield through INFO Solutions to make PDL and patient information available on a PDA. Implementation is projected to be October 1, 2004.
- Medicaid is developing an outsourcing proposal to include PDL and state rebate information.
- Medicaid has been appointed to the legislated Cost Prescription Initiative Board.
- Effective August 2, 2004, Medicaid has discontinued coverage of FDA indicated cosmetic products.
- Cost savings generated from the PDL include data based on the month of implementation. The savings are reported for the implementation months of November 2003, February 2004, March 2004 and April 2004. This report does not reflect state rebates.
- Town Hall Meetings are scheduled by Medicaid for August and September throughout Alabama. A schedule of time and location for the meetings is provided on the web. Times on the schedule refer to local time. CE will be available to physicians and pharmacists.
- Medicaid is preparing contracts for new Board members. A letter will be sent to each member regarding their status. A new vice chair will be elected at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: The date for the next DUR Board meeting was set for October 27, 2004.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Steve Espy, R.Ph.

The DUR Board recommendation is to repeat the Diabetes criteria for the next cycle.

Carol Herrmann (x) Approve () Deny 9/14/04
Carol Herrmann, Commissioner Date

Kathy Hall (x) Approve () Deny 9/14/04
Kathy Hall, Deputy Commissioner Date

John Searcy (x) Approve () Deny 9/13/04
John Searcy, Medical Director Date

Mary McIntyre (x) Approve () Deny 9-07-04
Mary McIntyre, Medical Director Date